



# Council Report

26 February 2025





## CEO Report

Hello and a warm welcome to the February 2025 Council Report.

I am delighted to introduce this report at a pivotal moment for CIBSE, as we embark on an exciting new chapter in our history. In December 2024 and after 45 years in Balham, we finally moved to our [new head office at 91-94 Saffron Hill](#), in the heart of Farringdon - one of London's most central, dynamic and well-connected locations. This move represents much more than a change of address; it reflects CIBSE's vision for the future. Our new space is designed to foster innovation, collaboration and lifelong learning, creating a welcoming hub for our staff, members and the wider industry.

A key feature of our new home will be the CIBSE Skills Hub, designed to inspire the next generation of engineers while supporting the development of experienced professionals. With dedicated spaces for training, lifelong learning, events and collaboration, the Skills Hub will provide a dynamic environment where engineers can connect, upskill and engage with industry experts. This is planned for delivery in late Autumn 2025, when we will officially inaugurate the building and begin welcoming our members. To bring this vision to life, we have launched a two-year fundraising campaign, ensuring that members, organisations and partners have the opportunity to contribute to shaping the future of our profession through CIBSE's Skills Hub.

Our move to the new head office comes at a time of strong momentum for CIBSE, reflected in the continued growth of our membership. Since the last report, we have seen a 5.2% increase, with our community expanding from 21,879 members in October 2024 to 23,026 in February 2025. At a time when similar organisations are struggling with expansion and purpose, this growth is a testament to the vital role CIBSE plays in supporting and representing building services professionals worldwide.

CIBSE's growth and influence is truly global, as demonstrated by our recent international engagements. In October, we hosted [CIBSE Week 2024 in Dubai](#), a dynamic series of events focused on building services engineering. Our delegation, headed by President Fiona Cousins, President Elect Vince Arnold and myself, led key discussions on climate resilience and building performance while strengthening relationships across the UAE and Saudi Arabia. The week included conferences, university collaborations, and member outreach, culminating in the 6th Edition of the CIBSE Middle East Awards, which brought together over 350 professionals to celebrate excellence in the region.

The following month, we reaffirmed our commitment to global collaboration with a landmark [visit to China](#). In Hong Kong, our delegation engaged in high-level discussions on AI and technology with ArchSD and EMSD, while a historic Mutual Recognition Agreement was signed with HKIE - paving the way for the continued mutual recognition of professional engineers between the UK and Hong Kong. In Shanghai, we explored advancements in carbon reduction and IoT, further reinforcing CIBSE's role in driving innovation and sustainability worldwide.

In November 2024, the CIBSE Canada Network hosted an [event in Toronto](#), where President Fiona Cousins presented the Building Performance Reimagined report, sparking discussions on its practical applications with industry experts.

CIBSE's engagement in China continued in January 2025, as we joined [UK-China policy discussions on Decarbonisation and Climate Resilience of Buildings](#). Dr Anastasia Mylona and Dr Julie Godefroy, joined by Darren Woolf, Chair of CIBSE's Building Simulation Special Interest Group, and Professor Dejan Mumovic, Professor of Building Performance Analysis at UCL, shared key insights on UK policies, industry standards and the role of CIBSE guidance and the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Standard (NZCBS) in future-proofing buildings.

These visits reflect CIBSE's growing international presence and our ongoing commitment to sharing knowledge, strengthening partnerships and shaping the future of building services engineering on a global scale.

CIBSE's influence in shaping the future of sustainable building practices was also evident at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, where our Technical Director, Dr. Anastasia Mylona, [represented CIBSE on the global stage](#). Dr. Mylona contributed to vital discussions on climate change and decarbonisation, speaking at the *Sustainable Cooling in a Warming World* event, hosted by the UK Government's Department for Energy Security and Net Zero in the Blue Zone UK Pavilion.

Her address highlighted the pressing challenges facing the built environment as we work towards net-zero, a message reinforced by the participation of Kerry McCarthy MP, UK Minister for Climate, in the discussions. CIBSE's presence at COP29 underscores our commitment to driving meaningful change, ensuring that building services engineers remain at the forefront of the global climate agenda.

In parallel, our CIBSE Societies continue their important work. The Society of Light and Lighting (SLL) celebrated Kate Turley as Young Lighter 2024 and expanded its international reach, particularly in the UAE. The Society also launched new membership criteria and improved resources. SoPHE continues to raise awareness of public health engineering, highlighted by a successful London Dinner and upcoming [Technical Conference on water scarcity and climate change](#). The Plumbing Centre of Excellence CPD program is also inspiring future engineers.

The Society of Façade Engineering (SFE) held global events, launched a Building Safety Act Focus Group, and saw growth in membership, with over 200 achieving MSFE status. SDE celebrated digital excellence at the SDE Digital Awards and continues to drive progress in digital engineering with new guidance and improved apprenticeship programmes.

The CIBSE Journal continued to spotlight key events and initiatives in 2024, including collaborations with YEN and features on AI-driven energy savings and CIBSE's new HQ. It also highlighted the *Net Zero Carbon Buildings Standard* and *Building Performance Awards*, along with a CPD supplement and coverage of COP29. The Journal hosted nine webinars, with 6,900 registrants, and saw a steady increase in web traffic, especially for its CPD area. In 2024, the Hays Salary Survey was our most-read feature, with over 10,000 views: [Engineering resilience: the 2024 Hays Salary Survey - CIBSE Journal](#).

CIBSE Knowledge continues to be a core benefit and gold standard for our members internationally, with growth in sales and downloads. Recently released publications include *TM65NA (Embodied Carbon in North America)* and *TM65UAE (for the UAE)*. Upcoming releases include *Commissioning Code W, Guide B2 on ventilation*, and the *Embodied Carbon Calculator (web version)*.

CIBSE Training had a highly successful year in 2024, surpassing targets and achieving strong growth. Compared to 2019 (pre-pandemic), CIBSE Training has seen a 44% increase since then. Bespoke in-house training and Heat Networks courses drove the strong performance. New courses launched included *Commissioning Code M, Building Regulations Part O*, and *AM18.1 on Medium Voltage Distribution*. Additionally, due to large demand for our Heat Networks training courses, CIBSE secured funding for Heat Networks training from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero for a second year in a row and continued development of the Accredited Life Cycle Assessment Practitioner course.



In 2024, 1,335 delegates attending public courses organised by CIBSE Training - many opting for online sessions - and 839 delegates participating in in-house tailored training, where demand for in-person sessions was high. This marked a 14% increase in public training delegates and a 63% rise in in-house training delegates compared to the previous year.

In 2025, CIBSE will host several key events, including the [Building Performance Awards](#), [Technical Symposium](#), [Patrons House of Lords Lunch](#) and [Decarbonisation of Heating and Cooling Conference](#). Reflecting on 2024, successful events like the [Young Engineers Awards](#) and [Building Performance Reimagined Conference](#) showcased excellence in the built environment.

The CIBSE Technical Team plays a critical role in shaping global policy and building regulations, engaging with consultations on key topics such as energy performance standards and sustainable building practices. The team collaborates with international professional bodies and organisations, including the Construction Industry Council and the National Engineering Policy Centre, to drive global progress. In response to major events like the Grenfell Tower Inquiry, the team has shown a strong commitment to enhancing building safety worldwide, including the establishment of the Building Services Fire Safety Working Group.

CIBSE also took a leading role in launching the *UK Net Zero Carbon Buildings Standard*, with over 2,400 attendees at the pilot webinar (the highest in CIBSE history), and plans to apply for verification body status. Research activities remain a key focus, including updates to TM65 on embodied carbon, the CIBSE Retrofit Revisit project and revisions to the UK Weather Files. As the team refines these files to enhance accuracy and reliability, they encourage users to ensure they are working with the most up-to-date versions to support accurate building performance assessments. The team's involvement extends to standards committees and industry forums, including ASHRAE and REHVA, ensuring that CIBSE's perspectives are integral to shaping energy efficiency and fire safety policies.

CIBSE's marketing and communications activities have made significant strides in raising CIBSE's profile, with media coverage on Net Zero, *COP29*, and the new head office. Notably, CIBSE was mentioned on BBC Parliament during the Scottish Parliament's Questions Session on 19 September 2024, providing a key opportunity to showcase its leadership to a broad audience. The session is available to watch [here](#). The PR initiatives extended to trade publications and significant events like *CIBSE Week 2024* in the Middle East and *Build2Perform Live* in London. CIBSE's social media presence saw substantial growth, especially on Instagram (40% increase) and LinkedIn (doubled engagement). The office relocation campaign achieved an impressive engagement rate of over 40%.

Finally, the nominations for CIBSE Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals 2025 are open. Each year, CIBSE awards Medals recognise and honour members who have made significant contributions to the built environment and the Institution. These awards celebrate professional service, dedication, leadership, innovation and excellence, reflecting the Institution's mission to promote and support the engineering of sustainable, safe and efficient buildings. Please submit your nomination [here](#) by Friday 21 March 2025.

Closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our volunteers and members for their invaluable contributions to CIBSE. Your continued enthusiasm, dedication, and support are truly appreciated and make a lasting impact.

Best, Ruth

Ruth Carter  
CIBSE Chief Executive Officer